

GULF DEFENDER



Vol. 64, No. 12 Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. Gulf Defender March 25, 2005

In brief

APH Committee meeting

Those interested in being part of the Asian Pacific Heritage Committee can attend a meeting at 2 p.m. today in the Military Personnel Flight conference room. For more information, contact Senior Master Sgt. Jeffrey Kahapea at 283-2222, or by e-mail at jeffrey.kahapea@tyndall.af.mil.

What's inside



B-Course student pilot soars with Eagles

... PAGE 9



Tyndall Airmen volunteer for 'Special' event

... PAGES 10-11

The ORI is coming ...



... 86 days and counting

But will it fly?

Col. Brian Dickerson, 325th Fighter Wing vice commander, revs up the engine of the "Air Force Chopper," a motorcycle built by world-famous bike builders, Orange County Choppers. The bike, which was officially unveiled Sunday at Atlanta Motor Speedway's Golden Corral 500, made its first Air Force appearance at Tyndall Tuesday. The 10-foot-long bike was modeled after the F/A-22 Raptor, complete with Air Force symbol rims, riveted gas tank, Raptor exhausts and rear view mirrors in the shape of jets.

Fire destroys Tyndall AFB Airman's home

2ND LT. WILLIAM POWELL

325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

A Tyndall Airman and his family were left homeless after a recent blaze gutted their Springfield home and claimed all their cherished belongings.

"I got a call from my daughter at 2 a.m. telling me our house was on fire," said Master Sgt. Darell Brewer, 325th Maintenance Operations Squadron weapons standardization superintendent.

The father of two was 200 miles north of Tyndall, attending the Senior NCO Academy course at Maxwell AFB, Ala.

"My first instinct was to ask if everyone was OK, which they were, and then I placed a call to my first sergeant and instructor so I could quickly get to my family," he said. According to Sergeant Brewer, his oldest daughter heard glass break at approximately 2 a.m. March 15, and noticed flames on the back porch as she walked through the kitchen.

"She quickly woke my wife and my youngest daughter and gathered our two pets. They ran outside and called 911," he said.

Meanwhile, Sergeant Brewer's neighbor, Tech. Sgt. Ryan Dufrain, 325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, awoke to the sound of his dogs barking at the commotion.

"When I woke, I heard the crackling of fire and my bedroom was lit up from the light of the flames outside," Sergeant Dufrain said. "I knew the fire was already out of control after taking one look at the house. Flames



2nd Lt. William Powel

Master Sgt. Darell Brewer, 325th Maintenance Operations Squadron weapons standardization superintendent, arranges some of the donated goods his family received after their house and all their possessions were destroyed in a fire March 15.

were 20 to 30 feet above the home. It was the biggest fire I have ever seen."

Sergeant Dufrain said he quickly dressed and ran outside to see if anyone needed help. "I was on my way into the home when Mrs. Brewer yelled to me from across the street," he continued. "She was still in shock but

• SEE FIRE PAGE 16

Crosswalks - not just for school kids

Maj. Frank Howard

325th Security Forces Squadron commander

When you were a kid, you were told by your parents, your teachers and possibly your school crossing guard that the safest way to cross the street was in a crosswalk.

These same adults taught you that drivers were responsible for stopping when pedestrians were entering a crosswalk.

And if you're now a parent yourself, you're probably teaching your children the same rules – look both ways, always use caution, and don't assume a car will stop for you if you're in a crosswalk.

These rules still hold true for adults here at Tyndall Air Force Base. Lately, there has been a rash of 'near misses' or 'close shaves' between pedestrians and vehicles on base. Sometimes it was the driver's error; other times it was the pedestrian's mistake.

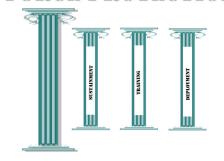
Drivers might not know this, but by law, in nearly every state in America, the pedestrian always has the right of way. Always. If there is one foot in the crosswalk, vehicles are required to yield to the pedestrian.

But that doesn't mean that people crossing the street should assume a driver will inherently and immediately stop and yield to the pedestrian. There is one simple rule of thumb when it comes to crosswalks – alertness counts!

The 325th Fighter Wing commander has notified all Security Forces personnel to be on the lookout for crosswalk violations on base, and from now on, drivers will be cited with tickets if they are found violating crosswalk rules.

Conversely, if pedestrians are crossing major base roads and not using the appro-

FORCE PROTECTION



priate crosswalk, they, too, may be cited with a ticket. Pedestrians are required to use designated crosswalks at high-traffic areas.

It comes down to simple common sense and rules you learned when you were a kid-cross at the crosswalk, stay alert, stop for pedestrians and protect yourself when crossing.

A, B, Cs to remember

Pedestrians:

Always use crosswalk Before crossing, look both ways

Cars will not always stop

Drivers:

Always yield to pedestrians Be aware of crosswalks Citations will be issued for crosswalk violations

STAY ALERT!

Easter: Time to reflect on hope, faith, love

CHAPLAIN (MAJ.) RANDALL E. KITCHENS

325th Fighter Wing

Around the world this weekend Christians will gather on Saturday or Sunday to celebrate the central core of their faith in a celebration widely known as Easter.

Regardless of the group's affiliation such as Protestant, Catholic, or Orthodox, the central faith event remains the same ... worship of a God whose son lived, died and was resurrected to provide hope for all humankind.

There are so many Bible lessons that speak of miracles, stories of battles, love and family. Why is this Easter story so important? That is the question that has been asked for centuries, and the answer continues to be glossed over because of its simplicity. Easter offers the hope of eternal life with Jesus Christ, God's son.

Regardless of the religious group, all have central stories to their faith tradition. Abraham, Isaac and Jacob are central to Jewish traditions, while the Islamic faith centers on Muhammad's five pillars as core teachings in the Qur'an. What is different about this Christian faith tradition? Many people would say there

The choice of embracing our faith and the core of the Easter event is our duty and privilege."

CHAPLAIN (MAJ.) RANDALL E. KITCHENS 325th Fighter Wing

is no difference. The Christian would respond that this is far different because the death, burial and resurrection is the Christian's faith. Without the Easter story then hope, faith and love are removed from the Christian experience.

Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ" has moved thousands from stale intellectualism to deep human compassion. For the Christian, this horrific experience prompted a deeper understanding of God's love for all humankind. These scenes depicted wrongful punishment, painful torture and crucifixion unto death. The resurrection painted a powerful picture of God's hope amidst pain and death.

For many people, Easter is filled with egg hunts, parties, food, families, friends and fellowship events. Oth-

ers would say that Easter is merely another day with no personal or religious significance. While we respect those views and even fight for the freedom that those views can be expressed, we also fight for the freedom to publically celebrate our hope in Jesus Christ. The choice of embracing our faith and the core of the Easter event is our duty and privilege.

Many within our community will choose to embrace their Christian faith and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ with others. Churches surrounding Tyndall will offer services of various styles at various times and locations. If you are a Christian, or are considering exploring this Christian faith, there is a place for you this weekend.

You may have questions and are not sure how to explore them. Contact your unit chaplain or call the chapel office at 283-2925 to schedule an appointment with a chaplain. Our chaplains will not force you to do anything you do not want to do, but merely walks with you on this journey assisting and guiding as needed. The Tyndall Chapel invites you to join us this weekend. Explore your faith, your hope and even your questions during the Chapel's Easter services this weekend.

Gulf Defender Editorial Staff

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The deadline for article submissions to the *Gulf Defender* is 4 p.m. Friday, prior to the week of publication unless otherwise noted. Articles must be typed and double-spaced, preferably on a 3.5-inch disc. Stories should be submitted directly to the public affairs office, Building 662, Room 129 or mailed to: 325 FW/PAI, 445 Suwannee Ave., Tyndall AFB, FL, 32403-5425 or e-mailed to editor@tyndall.af.mil. Public affairs staff members edit all material for accuracy, brevity, clarity, conformity to regulations and journalistic style. The delivery of the *Gulf Defender* to Tyndall base housing sections is provided by the *Panama City News Herald*.

For more information, or to advertise in the newspaper, call (850) 747-5000.

Military pay, allowances recognize troops' contributions

FORCE SUSTAINMENT

GERRY J. GILMORE

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON (AFPN) — Since the Sept. 11 attacks, Defense Department leaders and U.S. legislators "have worked together to increase servicemembers' basic pay by more than 21 percent," a senior DOD official told House Armed Services Committee members March 16.

DOD officials remain "committed to taking care of servicemembers and their families through appropriate compensation while mem-

bers are deployed and serving their country in dangerous locations around the world," said Charles S. Abell, principal deputy undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, before the military personnel subcommittee.

U.S. troops are slated

for a 3.1 percent across-the-board pay raise this coming year, Mr. Abell said. Additionally, he said the department has met its goal of eliminating troops' average out-of-pocket housing costs by 2005. In fact, he said military housing allowances are 41 percent greater than they were in 2001.

Troops serving in dangerous overseas locations receive various types of tax relief, depending upon rank and income, as well as additional compensation in view of their contributions in fighting and sustaining America's fight against terrorism, Mr. Abell said

For example, eligible enlisted troops deployed

to combat zones have their military pay exempted from federal income tax, he said. Besides their regular pay, these troops also receive \$225 monthly in danger pay and a \$250 monthly family separation allowance.

Mr. Abell said that troops deployed to overseas combat zones also receive hardship duty pay of \$100 a month and a \$105 monthly incidental expense allowance.

An accumulation of such added compensation typically amounts to more than \$700 a month for

married servicemembers and more than \$500 for the typical single troop during deployment, he said.

"These pays and allowances acknowledge the hardship and danger involved at these deployment locations, as well as the sacrifice associated with tours away from family," Mr. Abell said.

He said that troops who volunteer to extend their overseas tours of duty in combat zones like Afghanistan and Iraq also can receive an additional \$1,000 monthly in assignment incentive pay.

DOD officials also want to work with Congress, Mr. Abell said, to increase servicemembers' hardship duty pay. And the department is seeking to keep its special operations troops in uniform through an array of incentive packages, he said.

For example, Mr. Abell said officials "are offering bonuses of up to \$150,000 for highly skilled senior noncommissioned officers to serve an additional six years."

ON THE STREET

What is the most important item to bring on deployment?



"Bring your own sheets, because good bedding can make for good separations in the tent."

AIRMAN 1ST CLASS
RUSSELL CASHMORE
325th Maintenance Squadron



"The required gear, because you can't buy it at a bare base. If it's on the mobility list, you need to bring it."

STAFF SGT. ALIJHONDROE WILEY 325th Security Forces Squadron



"A calendar to know how many days you have left and some Febreze to keep your area smelling clean."

SENIOR AIRMAN CIARA ROBINSON 325th Medical Support Squadron



"The biggest thing is don't underpack. You'll be sad if you're missing something you thought was going to be too heavy."

CAPT. CLAY BARTELS 43rd Fighter Squadron

Action Line Call 283-2255



BRIG. GEN. JACK EGGINTON
325th Fighter Wing commander

The Action Line is your direct line to me. It is one way to make Tyndall a better place to work and live.

Action Line calls are recorded and staffed through the proper agency.

The goal is to provide you with an accurate, timely response. You must leave your name, phone number or address to receive a response.

Questions or comments of general interest will be published in this forum. This avenue should only be used after coordinating problems or concerns with supervisors, commanders, first sergeants or facility managers.

If you're not satisfied with the response or you are unable to resolve the problem, call me at 283-2255.

For fraud, waste and abuse calls, you should talk to the 325th Fighter Wing Inspector General's Office, 283-4646.

Calls concerning energy abuse should be referred to the energy hot line, 283-3995.

Below are some more phone numbers that help you in resolving any issues with a base agency.

Commissary	283-4825
Pass and I.D.	283-4191
Medical and Dental	283-7515
MEO	283-2739
MPF	283-2276
Public Affairs	283-4500

SF Desk Sgt. 283-2254 **Services** 283-2501 Legal 283-4681 Housing 283-2036 **Red Cross** 283-2770 Wing Safety 283-4231 CDC 283-4747 **Base Exchange** 286-5804 Area Defense Counsel 283-2911 **Finance** 283-4117 Civil Engineer 283-4949 Civilian Personnel 283-3203 **Base Information** 283-1113

Thank you for helping me to improve Tyndall and I look forward to hearing from you.

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Top AF manpower official visits Tyndall

STAFF SGT. BENJAMIN ROJEK

325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Force shaping is here to stay, said the assistant secretary of the Air Force for manpower and organization March 16.

During a site visit here, Michael Dominguez, who is responsible to the Secretary of the Air Force for education, training, morale and welfare, and the Reserve components, spoke about force shaping and other issues affecting the Air Force.

"What we're going to be seeing is an enemy who adapts to us and places new demands on us," said Mr. Dominguez. "It's not going to be acceptable to take four years for the training pipeline to fill our shortfall skills. We're going to have to move a lot faster than that in the future."

Mr. Dominguez said force shaping helps the Air Force do just that by putting the right skills in the right place with the right numbers.

"Instead of having one career field with back-to-back 180-day deployments, the idea of force shaping is to get everybody back to a normal rhythm," he said. "This will make us a more effective Air Force, because we'll retain our highly trained people at higher rates."

Another important issue facing today's Air Force is sexual harassment, he said. It has been a major focus of Air Force leadership.

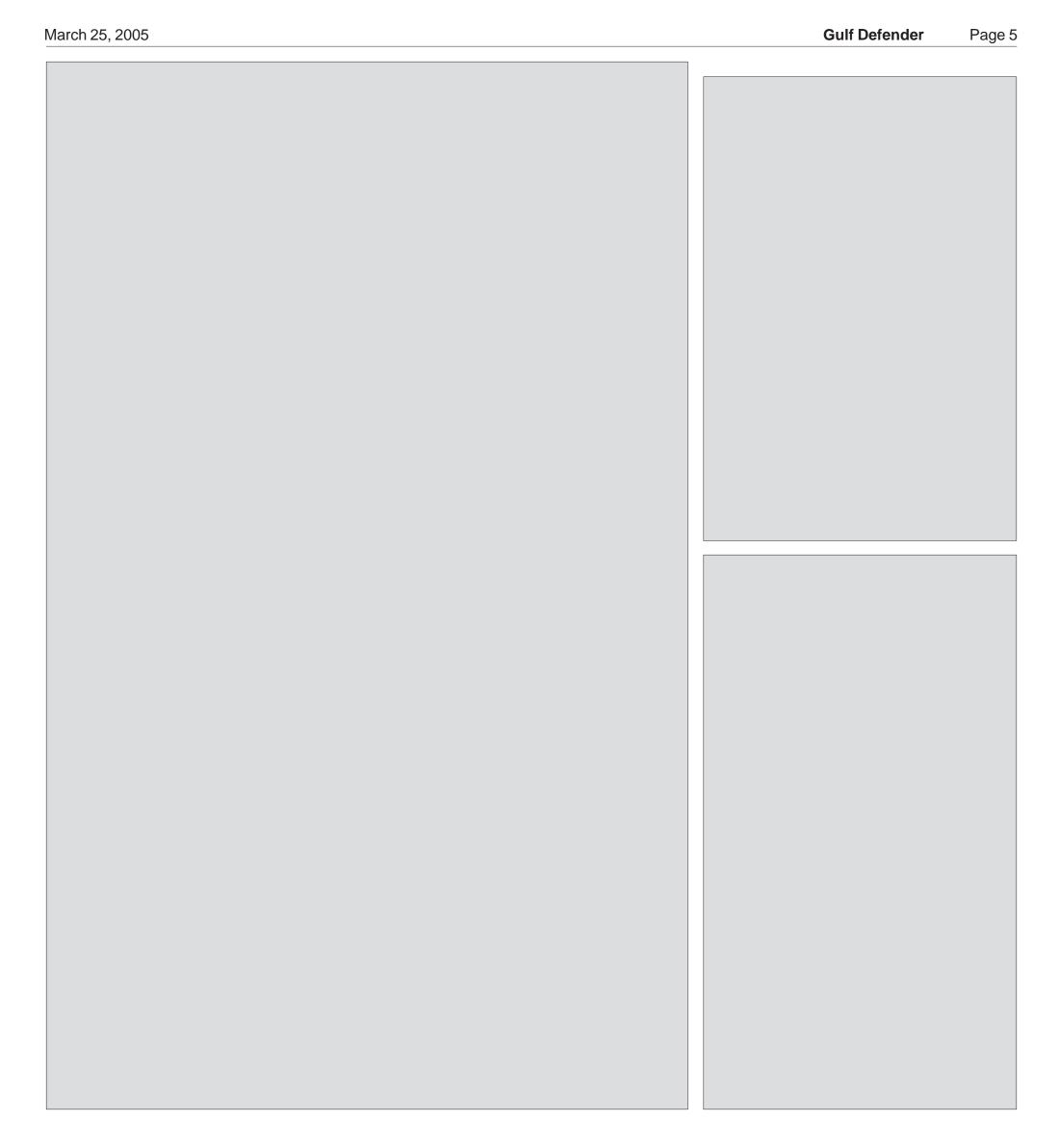


Staff Sgt. John Gladney, 325th Operations Support Squadron control tower watch supervisor, briefs Michael Dominguez, Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Organization, on tower operations during a site visit here March 16.

"It is our responsibility to create an environment in which every Airman can work well, and we will do this by teaching our people how to behave properly," said Mr. Dominguez.

"Once you 'Cross into the Blue,' you're no longer in civilian society," he added. "The rules are different and the standards are higher."

• SEE VISIT PAGE 17



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STEP right up

Isaac Gibson

Brig. Gen. Jack Egginton, right, 325th Fighter Wing commander, and Lt. Col. Dennis McDevitt, 325th Air Control Squadron commander, 'tack on' the new technical sergeant stripes for Tech. Sgt. Stephanie Nattiel Tuesday. Sergeant Nattiel received the stripes from the wing commander through the Stripes for Exceptional Performers program. She is the squadron's NCO Staff Professional of the Year for 2003 and 2004 and is the squadron's NCO-incharge of computer support. Congratulations, Sergeant Nattiel.



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Tenacious twister tears through Tyndall AFB

2ND LT. WILLIAM POWELL

325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

A tornado blew through parts of Tyndall and left an estimated \$60,000 in damages to Detatchment 1/823rd RED HORSE Squadron's Silver Flag Exercise Site here March 7.

According to Tech. Sgt. Martha Horner, 325th Operations Support Squadron weather operations flight chief, the Tyndall Combat Weather Team issued a tornado warning for Tyndall at 8:20 p.m.

Ten minutes later, the storm intensified and the base siren whirled as the Giant Voice public address system issued a message of the tornado warning.

"(The weather flight) then received a call from a student at Silver Flag wondering what the siren was for and what they should do," Sergeant Horner continued. "We told him a possible tornado was heading in their direction and to take immedi-

ate shelter in hardened facilities."

According to Senior Master Sgt. Rodger Brown, Det. 1 823rd RHS chief of operations, more than 180 students were taking shelter in tents at the Silver Flag site.

Civil engineers, first sergeants, services, manpower and finance personnel were there participating in various deployment exercises during a week-long training and exercise program.

As the Silver Flag students made their way to concrete latrine and shower buildings, the weather flight also evacuated their trailer and moved to a hardened facility.

"Almost immediately, heavy rain and strong winds began and the weather trailer took a power hit, knocking out a majority of our weather equipment," Sergeant Horner said. "Right before the power hit, however, wind speeds surpassing 46 knots were observed by our forecaster."

The dark skies and heavy rain made any tornado practically invisible to the naked eye, but Sergeant Horner said a tornado was observed on radar.

The twister did the greatest damage to the Silver Flag laundry facility, which destroyed the tent and multiple new washers and dryers, said Sergeant Brown.

"We also took damage to our training field shower and latrine tents," he said. "The total loss is in addition to the \$472,000 in damages sustained by Hurricane Ivan that hit Florida last September."

Florida's panhandle receives three to five weak tornadoes each year, not including water spouts or hurricanes. And, despite people's natural curiosity to want to see a tornado first-hand, Sergeant Horner said that is the last thing people should do.

"Take immediate shelter in an area away



Courtesypho

A Silver Flag field laundry facility tent was destroyed by a tornado that struck Tyndall's exercise site March 7. More than \$60,000 in damages are estimated, on top of the \$472,000 loss left by Hurricane Ivan.

from windows if a tornado is approaching," she continued. "Do not go outside, and absolutely do not attempt to 'see' the tornado. Cars are not a good place to be during a tornado either, so try to get indoors in a hardened facility."





Steve Wallace

Sergeant Martinez receives the Checkertail Salute Warrior of the Week award from Col. Brian Dickerson, 325th Fighter Wing vice commander.

The Checkertail Clan salutes Sergeant Martinez, who is the 325th Operations Support Squadron intelligence formal training unit instructor. He received the top intelligence performer during the 2004 Wing Turkey Shoot. He revised 27 hours of mission planning academics. Sergeant Martinez also spearheaded a Christmas toy drive for the Salvation Army, gathering more than 50 gifts for local homeless families.

Duty title: Intelligence formal training unit instructor **Time on station:** Six

months

Time in service: Seven

years

Hometown: San Antonio Hobbies: Texas hold 'em, paintball and watching television

Goals: Doing the exact same job, but as an officer

Favorite movie:

"Braveheart"

Favorite book: "3 - 1 Vol. 2" Favorite thing about

Tyndall: Good weather and a great job

Pet peeves: Lazy people Proudest moment in the

military: Becoming an intelligence instructor

The Checkertail Salute is a 325th Fighter Wing commander program designed to recognize Tyndall's Warrior of the Week. Supervisors can nominate individuals via their squadron and group commanders. Award recipients receive a certificate, letter from the commander and a one-day pass.

Congratulations ALS Class 2005-3 graduates!

Natasha Andrews, 325th MSS
Alan Arcand, 372nd TRS/Det. 4
Antonio Cook, 325th MOS
Matthew Conboy, 325th MXS
Stephen Cotta, 325th SFS
Alana Fleming, 83rd FWS
Anthony Forrester, HQ AFCESA
Eloris Hall 325th OSS
Janet Hoover, 325th ACS
Eric Kleser, 325th AMXS
Gordon Lam, 325th CS
Ervin Lockhart, 239th CCS
Brandi Love, 325th CES
Amber Muniz, 325th CES

Aaron Nichols, 82nd ATS
Kamisha Porter, 325th AMXS
Crystal Price, 325th ACS
Amanda Ray, 325th ACS
Evan Ray, 325th ACS
Phillip Richard, 325th AMXS
Travis Richardson, 325th CS
Ciara Robinson, 325th MDSS
Lisa Rushing, 823rd RED HORSE
Shaunelle Tharpe, 126th LRS
David Tufano, 325th AMXS
Michelle Tufano, 325th MSS
Demetrius Wofford, 325th AMXS

Award winners

John L. Levitow: Michelle Tufano

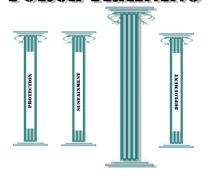
Leadership: Natasha Andrews

Academic Achievement: Brandi Love

Distinguished Graduate: Lisa Rushing

Distinguished Graduate: David Tufano

FORCE TRAINING



Training Spotlight

What has been your favorite aspect of training so far?

Live missions with the F-15 Eagle, because it is realworld training, and working with the Canadians, because we were able to see the differences in our perspectives."



2ND LT. DAVID BURGE 325th Air Control Squadron Air Battle Manager student

B-Course student soars on Eagle's wings

MASTER SGT. MARY MCHALE

325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

Until recently as a F-15 Eagle Basic-Course student, he's learned about the jet, its capabilities and its limitations, through classroom academics and simulator training.

Now midway through the course, Capt. Andrew Pence is ground-bound no more and has experienced several flights as he nears the end of the basic fundamental portion of the course.

The captain, formerly a B-1 navigator, began the course here Jan. 21. With the cockpit as his current classroom, he's flown both with an instructor pilot, and then solo in the jet, on the wing of an IP.

Captain Pence said while he was nervous on his first actual flight, at wheels up he felt "pure exhilaration" and feels good about his progress so far. According to Captain Pence, a typical fly day for him includes checking out weather conditions, notices to Airmen and his flying gear. He then goes into a pre-flight briefing with his instructor pilot, where they go over specific mission details, from stepping to the jet, to landing and parking. The pre-flight briefing can last anywhere from 1½ to 2 hours. Then, following the flight, the IP and student do a post-flight debrief.

"During debrief, we talk about any mistakes made on the mission and how to fix them," Captain Pence said. "Now they last about an hour, but they will get longer as the missions get more complex."

Students are graded on a scale that goes from unsatisfactory which indicates nonprogression and a repeat try, to below average, average and above average.

"These instructors are a lot quieter during rides," said Captain Pence. "They let you make your mistakes unless there's a safety hazard involved. They're getting you ready for the single seat mentality when there's no one to help you and you're going to need to figure it out on your own. I felt really prepared prior to my first solo."

He said the initial flights are meant to provide first-hand, tactile experience about basic F-15 flying fundamentals they've been taught so far using classroom texts and aircraft simulators.

For example, on one mission in the military operating area, they specifically did some G-force exercises to test the captain's sustainability since such forces are an inherent part of flying fighter jets.

"This is necessary since we experience a lot more Gs in this jet than in any aircraft we've been in previously," Captain Pence said. "But, I've been to the centrifuge where they expose you to nine Gs, which is very painful. Compared to that, the jet's not too bad. I've experienced up to eight Gs for about five seconds. You just have to do the initial straining and breathing procedures you're trained to do."

Along with the G-exercises, the captain and his instructor also practiced formation flying in different configurations and simulated weapons firing to include missiles and bullets. During another exercise, they flew at slower speeds with the landing gear down to learn what coming in for landing feels like. All are meant to acquaint the student with the actual feeling of the particular maneuver or tactic. Then, upon departing the area, Captain Pence said he practiced landing approaches and getting and staying in the correct pattern over the airfield.

Now nearing the end of his fundamentals portion, the captain has two rides left to pass. One is his second instrument check ride and the final is an aircraft handling characteristics ride where he described the maneuvers as "more intense, involving higher Gs and a lot more 'yanking and banking.'"

Following his completion of the basic fundamentals portion, the captain will go on to basic fighter maneuver training. There he will learn to integrate these previous basic fundamentals with further advanced tactics to actually employ the aircraft as a weapons platform.

Just another step toward his ultimate goal to become a full-fledged "Eagle driver."



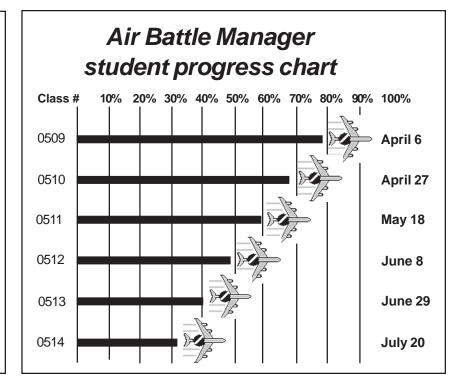
Capt. Andrew Pence, an F-15 Eagle B-Course student with the 2nd Fighter Squadron, checks an AIM-9 missile during an F-15 pre-flight inspection here.

Good to go

(From left) Senior Airman Christina Tripi, 325th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron, gets a thumbs up that oxygen is flowing in the masks of Airman 1st Class Jason Grim, 325th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron, 2nd Lt. Ross Fielding, 325th Air Control Squadron, Master Sgt. Don Birtsch, 325th AMXS, 2nd Lt. Douglas Austin, 325th ACS, and 2nd Lt. Brett Maden, 28th Test Squadron, at the altitude chamber here. Both 325th ACS lieutenants, air battle manager students with Class 0511, were in the chamber as part of their training March 16.



Staff Sqt. Benjamin Rojek







Synterika Deveaux crosse was timed individually. S



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David Redgter carries the Special Olympics torch as Army students from the Naval Diving and Salvage Training Center, Naval Support Activity Panama City, run alongside Saturday. The tradition of the Olympic torch is as old as the games themselves.



(From left) Chief Warrant Officer Donna Randazzo, Center for Explosive Ordnance Disposal and Diving Panama City, Capt. Gary Windhorst, the Center's commander, Brig. Gen. Jack Egginton, 325th Fighter Wing commander and Chaplain (1st Lt.) Daniel Call, 325th Fighter Wing, salute the flag during the National Anthem. Event coordinators said this year's events had the largest amount of military volunteers ever. Hundreds of volunteers, spectators and athletes joined together at Tommy Oliver Stadium in Panama City for the games.



Christian Roberson heaves a softball during the softball throw competition as his escort, Sergeant Viars, left, watches. Tech. Sgt. Harvey McLean, right, 372nd Training Squadron/Detachment 4, also assisted Christian and the other participants by keeping track of how many throws each competitor has remaining and directing them where to toss the balls.

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es the finish line in the 25-meter unassisted wheelchair race. Each racer he won first place and also took top prize in the tennis ball throw.



pecial ympics



ron Smith aims for the target in bocce ball, a game nilar to lawn bowling. He is the returning gold edal winner from last year's events, which featured cce ball for the first time in the area games. He d his teammate, Shawn Pipkins, right, took first ace in this year's team game.



Above: Tech. Sgt. David Viars, an NCO Academy student here and Christian Roberson's escort, places a gold medal over Christian's head after he placed first in the 50-meter assisted walk. Many Tyndall Airmen served as escorts because each athlete required a dedicated escort to assist with any unexpected needs and to keep them company.

Left: Amanda Squires races to the finish line as she competes in the 50-meter individual dash. She completed the event with the fastest time and won the gold medal for her category. Many athletes competed in multiple events including soccer skills, track and field, cycling and bocce ball.

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Briefs

RAO volunteers

The Retiree Activities Office is seeking volunteers to assist with the various tasks associated with running the office. The RAO is an all-volunteer organization that provides assistance and information to Tyndall's retiree community on retiree-related issues. Those interested in volunteering should contact the office at 283-2737 or by e-mail at tyndall.RAO@tyndall.af.mil.

Estate settlement

Any person or persons having any claims for or against the estate of Tech. Sgt. James Smith, deceased, assigned to Eglin Air Force Base, Fla., should contact the Summary Court Officer 2nd Lt. Karen Jelke, 33rd Maintenance Squadron, Eglin AFB, at (850) 883-4428 or DSN 875-4428.

Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University

Register for ERAU distance learning undergraduate courses through Thursday for term dates April 15 – July 7. To register for classes, come to Bldg. 1230, Room 49 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily. For more information, call 283-4557.

Gulf Coast Community College

The next GCCC Tyndall Center placement test will be held at 1 p.m. April 6 at the Tyndall Center. Schedules for summer and fall will be available April 11. Tyndall registration for summer and fall will be held from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 13. For more information, call 283-4332.

Scholarship and camp opportunities

The Society of American Military Engineers has scholarship and summer camp applications and information available at the SAME Panama City Post Web site: posts.same.org/panamacity/Programs_05.htm. Engineering and Construction Summer Camp applications for high school seniors is due by Thursday.

Anger Management class

The workshop series will be held 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. for the next three consecutive Mondays in the conference room of Bldg. 1305. For more information or to sign up for classes, call 283-7511.

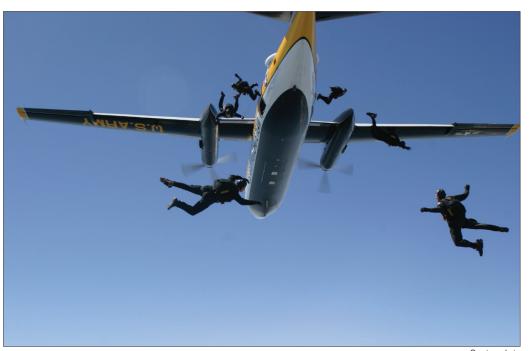
Moms, Pops and Tots

The Tyndall Community Center is offering Powerful Parenting for Moms and Pops of Tots each Wednesday from 9 – 10:30 a.m. Bring your ideas on how we can make this a fun, exciting and educational experience for all. For more information, contact Laurie Campbell at 286-6501 or e-mail znory7@yahoo.com.

Gulf Guide

It's a bird, it's a plane, it's ...

The Golden Knights, the Army parachute team, jumps out of their plane to perform their aerial demonstration over Panama City Beach Monday. The Black Demonstration team is in the area to perform before a Spring Break crowd. The Gold Demonstration team will perform at Tyndall during the Gulf Coast Salute May 14 and 15.



Courtesy photo

Air National Guard opportunities

The 109th Airlift Wing, in Scotia, N.Y., home of the C-130 ski-birds, has Traditional Guard vacancies available. For more information, contact Master Sgt. James Reeves, at DSN 344-2457 or 1-800-524-5070, or by email at James.Reeves@nyscot.ang.af.mil.

Palace Chase Force Shaping

With the Air Force close to reaching their desired number of separatees, the force shaping program will soon be coming to a close. Members who are thinking about leaving active duty early can transfer their commitment into the Air Force Reserve without having to payback bonuses, and while maintaining many of the same benefits. There are Air Force Reserve opportunities available in many locations in the U.S. and overseas. Re-training into a different career field is also an option. For more information, please contact Master Sgt. Randi Baum at 283-8384, or by e-mail at randi.baum@tyndall.af.mil, or vist the Military Personnel Flight, Bldg. 662, Room 222.

Commissary news

The Commissary will be open Easter Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Volunteers needed

The Tyndall Volunteer Resource Program serves as the central base resource for volunteer recruitment, placement and recognition. The program assists individuals seeking volunteer opportunities to meet their volunteer goals and authorized organizations and agencies to recruit qualified volunteers. Volunteers are currently needed at Family Services/Airman's Attic, the Red Cross, Retiree Activities Office, 325th Services Squadron and other locations at

Tyndall. For more information, call the Family Support Center at 283-4204/4205.

OSC Quality of Life program

The Tyndall Officers' Spouses' Club is proud to announce that the Quality of Life program will be available to the Tyndall community once again this year. The OSC has up to \$4,500 to award this year for any project that will benefit members of the base. This cannot be an open-ended project and must be completed by July 30. If you or your organization has a project that you would like to have considered for this award, please submit a detailed written proposal outlining what your group would like to do with these funds, the amount needed and how your group intends to accomplish this goal. All applications will be accepted via e-mail to Katy Howard at katyquilter@knology.net or mailed to Tyndall OSC at P.O. Box 40029, Tyndall AFB, Fla., 32403. Deadline for proposals is Wednesday, and will be awarded April 19. For further information, please contact Mrs. Howard at 215-2020.

Chapel Schedule

Weekly Bible Study

The Bible study "Life Without Strife" meets from 6:30-8 p.m. every Tuesday night at the Spiritual Fitness building by Chapel Two, in Room 108.

Catholic services

Daily Mass, 11:30 a.m. Monday—Friday, Chapel Two

Reconciliation - before Saturday Mass or by appointment

Saturday Mass, 5 p.m., Chapel Two

Sunday Mass, 9:30 a.m., Chapel Two Religious Education, 11 a.m., Bldg. 1476

Protestant services

Traditional worship service, 9:30 a.m., Chapel One

Religious education classes, 9:30-10:30 a.m. Bldg. 1476

Contemporary worship service, 11 a.m., Chapel Two

Wednesday Fellowship, 5 p.m., Chapel Two

Tyndall Chapel Lenten/Easter Schedule:

Ecumenical:

Lenten Devotions/Mass, 11:30 a.m., Chapel Two

Catholic, in Chapel Two:

Good Friday Service, 3 p.m. today Easter Vigil, 8 p.m. Saturday Easter Mass, 9:30 a.m. Sunday

Protestant:

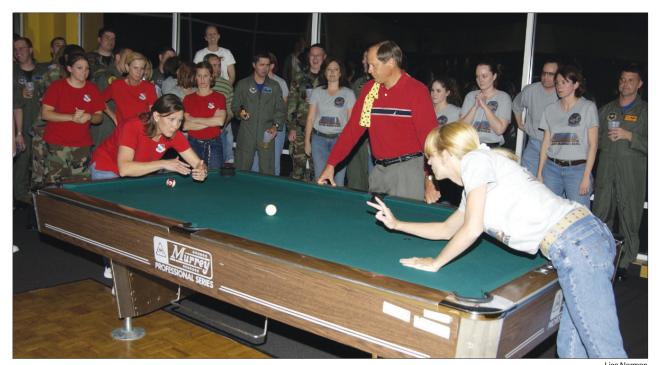
Good Friday, 5 p.m. today, Chapel One Easter Sunrise Service, 6 a.m. Sunday, Shoal Point

Jewish Passover schedule

This year, Passover is preceded by the Sabbath which begins the evening of April 22. Passover will be observed from sundown, April 23 through sunset, May 1. The first two days, April 24 and 25, and the last two days, April 30 and May 1, are days of religious obligation for people of the Jewish faith.

Passover Seder will be 6 p.m., April 23, at Temple B'Nai Israel, 1910 Frankford Ave., Panama City. The deadline for making reservations is April 13. For more information, call Nathan Miller at Temple B'Nai Israel at 522-8625.

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LISA INUITTI

Distraction action

Barb Hess, left, wife of Col. Derek Hess, 53rd Weapons Evaluation Group commander, tries to distract Angie Roby, wife of Capt. Greg Roby, 325th Air Control Squadron flight commander, from hitting the object ball during a crud tournament at the Officers' Club here March 18. Mrs. Hess was with the 53rd WEG team and Mrs. Roby was with the 325th ACS team. The game was refereed by John Day, an F-15 Instructor with Lockheed Martin. The FW/MDG team won the tournament.

Intramural Sports Standings

Volleyball



Team	Win	Loss
AMXS	3	0
RHS	3	0
95 FS	1	0
MXS	1	0
MDG	3	1
AFCESA	2	1
CONR	2	1
COMM	2	1
ACS 1	1	2
53 WEG/82 TRS	3 1	2
SEADS	1	2
TEST	1	4
83 FWS	0	1
SVS	0	2
ACS 2	0	4

Soccer

Team	Win	Loss
SFS	3	0
ACS	3	0
OSS	2	0
MXS	2	1
TEST	2	1
372 TRS	1	2
CES	1	2
83 FWS	1	2
SEADS	0	3
COMM	0	4

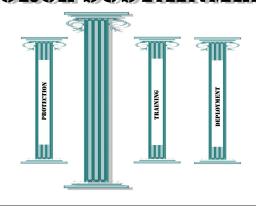


Squadron sports teams need support!

Volleyball games start at 6:15 p.m. Monday through Thursday and are played at the Fitness Center. Soccer games start at 5:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays and are played at the Heritage Soccer Field.

The Fitness Center offers a wide variety of intramural sports throughout the year. For more information on how to sign up, contact your unit sports representative or call the Fitness Center at 283-2631.

FORCE SUSTAINMENT





Mulan II 6 p.m. Thursday

Fa Mulan gets the surprise of her young life when her love, Captain, now General, Li Shang asks for her hand in marriage. Before the two can have their happily ever after, the Emperor assigns them a secret mission to escort three princesses to Chang'an, China. Mushu is determined to drive a wedge between the couple after he learns that he will lose his guardian job if Mulan marries into the Li family. After the princesses unexpectedly fall in love with the Gang of Three, Mulan decides to help them escape the fate of marrying men they do not love, though this contradicts the Emperor's orders and forces him to put Mulan's relationship with Shang into question. They are attacked by Mongolians, and the fate of China hangs in the balance.

(Information courtesy of www.imdb.com. Used with permission.)

Coming up ...

The Phantom of the Opera 6 p.m. April 7

(Editor's note: All movies are subject to change)

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tunshine NEWS



Produced by the 325th Services Squadron

www.325thservices.com

All ranks at the O'Club

Easter Sunday Brunch

Adults \$16.95 Children 5-11 \$8.50 Children 4 & under free

- Menu -

Carving station Steamship round, Baked turkey and ham Seasonal vegetables Belgian waffles Omelets (made to order) Cream beef and biscuits Home fries Bacon Assorted fruit and juices Dessert station

Two seatings: 10:30 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. Reservations strongly recommended

283-4357



All ranks at the Enlisted Club

Free Movie Night

Thursday

Phantom of the Opera

Rated PG - 13 Movie 6 p.m.

Only ballet mistress Madame Giry knows that Christine's mysterious "Angel of Music" is actually the Phantom, a disfigured musical genius who haunts the catacombs of the theatre, terrifying the ensemble of artists who live and work there.

Snack Bar item s include:

Pizza, hot dogs, chili dogs, nachos, popcorn, candy, and soda.

Youth under age 16 must be accompanied by an adult. Movies subject to availability.

283-4357

10

Community Center

© 283-2495

Pilates instructor

The cardio center is looking for an additional pilates instructor. If you have the right qualifications, we are looking for you. Call 283-2495.

Baselevel table tennis tournament

April 16, 1 p.m. This event is open to active duty AF members, DOD civilians, contractors, family members and retirees. All participants must be 18 years or older. 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards will be given. Sign up by April 9.

Gulf Coast Salute food concession

Here is an opportunity for your squadron or private organization to earn some extra income. All units & organizations interested in participating in this year's open house (May 14 - 15) must fill out a concession application. Official military units assigned to Tyndal AFB will have priority. The number of booths available is limited. Concession packages are available at the Community Activities Center, Bldg. 1027, Tuesday - Saturday.

Leisure Travel office

The Leisure Travel office located at the Community Center, will be closed Monday until April 1. The office will reopen on April 4.

Pizza Pub in the CAC

NASCAR race Sunday Food City 400

Pizza Pub opens at 11 a.m.

Race begins at 11:30 a.m. Races shown at the Pizza Pub.

Prizes for participation will be given at each event. Must be a current club member to win

283-3222 for details

Air Force Club Scholarship Program



Applicants must be accepted by, or enrolled in, an accredited college or university graduate or undergraduate program by fall of 2005, Information packages with complete instructions and requirements are available from the Tyndall Officers' Club.



Entry deadline is July 15.

Six scholarships will be awarded to AF Club members or their eligible family members.

283-4357 for more information

Sponsored in part by: CHASE and Master Card.

Youth Center

© 283-4366

Get ready to...

Sign up for Freestyle/Flatland Skateboarding. Learn basic to advanced tricks taught by former World Freestyle Amateur Champion and current touring professional

John Leathers. Classes are open to ages seven and up and the cost is \$20 per session or four sessions for \$75.

Classes are held at the Youth Center gym and will include special skate trips with Team "TNT" and special guest skaters.

Saturday 10 a.m. - noon

Call 283-4366 for more information.



INFORMATION, TICKETS & TRAVEL

APRIL 5 10 A.M.-1 P.M. AT THE TYNDALL ENLISTED CLUB

More than \$8,000 in door prizes! and surprise freebies.

More than 80 vendors!



Play Texas Hold 'Em

All ranks at the Enlisted Club Sign-ups start at 6 p.m. - Play starts at 7 p.m.

Play every Saturday for seven weeks. Grand championship April 16

\$15 per player per week includes food and 5,000 points in chips Top three nightly winners awarded prizes.

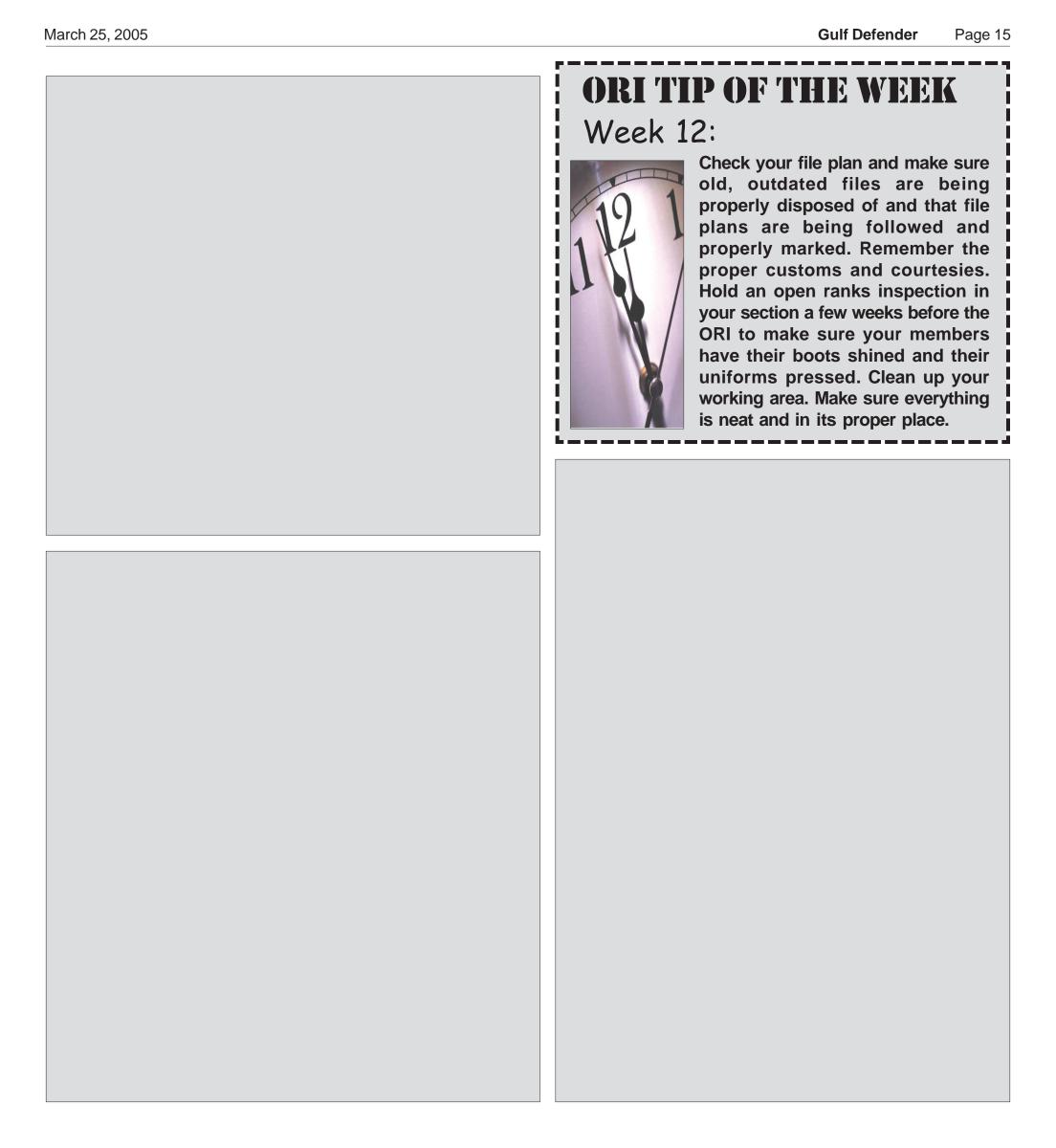
Nightly winner has chance to draw a "Royal Flush" and win a new car.

Two vehicles to choose from: Nissan 2005 Atima - 2005 Frontier

Sign up at the door.

Call 283-4357 Must be an active USAF Club member. Sponsored in part by Lloyd

No federal endorsement of sponsor intended



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• From FIRE Page 1

told me everyone was safely out of the house."

Sergeant Dufrain briefly went home to gather some sandals and warm clothes for the family. He then sat with them until the fire department arrived.

"The house was a loss before the firemen even pulled up," he said. "But in the face of this major loss, Mrs. Brewer was a rock for her family. After the initial shock, she stayed surprisingly calm. Sergeant Brewer would have been proud."

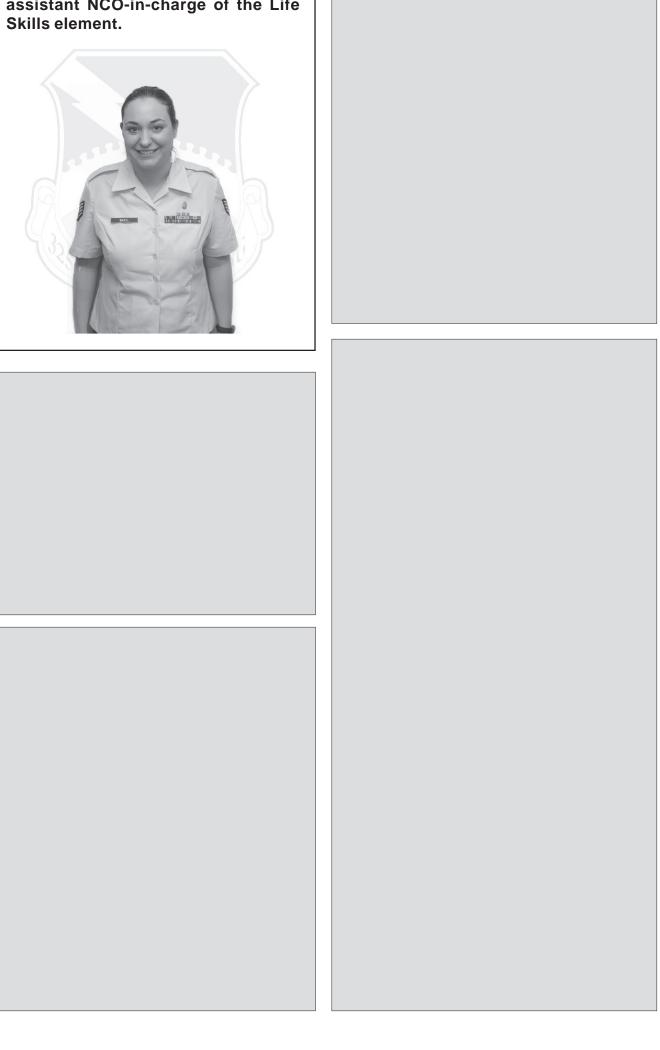
The cause of the fire is still under investigation, but inspectors may have narrowed it down to a faulty electrical outlet on the back porch or a freezer the family had recently moved to the porch, Sergeant Brewer said.

Sergeant Brewer added he is grateful for the support of Tyndall men and women who have graciously donated goods and clothing to help get the family back on its feet.

"Tyndall has provided awesome support with clothing, furniture items, household goods and financial aid. Words can't express the gratitude that my family and I have. We really appreciate everything everyone has done," he said.

The Brewer family currently has enough clothing donations, but household goods and furniture are still being accepted. Contact Master Sgt. Thomas Pfister, 325th MOS acting first sergeant, at 283-3894 to donate. Financial contributions can also be deposited at any Tyndall Federal Credit Union branch under Sergeant Brewer's name.

The Gulf Defender is published for people like Staff Sgt. Ruth Basil Jr., 325th Medical Operations Squadron assistant NCO-in-charge of the Life Skills element.



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• From VISIT Page 4

The important thing now is to remember to take care of your wingman, he said. It is all about Airmen taking care of Airmen.

"If we can all get that sight picture," he said, "then we can deal with this problem."

Mr. Dominguez also touched on the issue of the National Security Personnel System, a civilian personnel management system that will change processes such as the way civilian jobs are graded and classified.

"Its purpose, its central core, is performance of the national security mission," he said. "It's optimized to help civilian Airmen perform that mission."

He said while people may try to find the negative in the program, it is actually put in place to help civilian workers perform.

"We will have much more flexibility to move people and help them find their niche, where they can flourish, perform and achieve to their maximum potential," said Mr. Dominguez.

"We've had 20 years of practice (with this program) in our DOD laboratories," he added. "So there are new aspects, but the theory has been proven."

Mr. Dominguez also talked about the most rewarding aspect of his position: getting to know the uniformed men and women of the Air Force.

"(They are) a fabulous, impressive team," he said. "It's just an honor to be a part of that."

Golden Bolt Award Airman 1st Class Chris Long



st Lt. Albert Bosco

Airman Long, 2nd Aircraft Maintenance Unit B-Flight crew chief, inspects an F-15 Eagle's vertical stabilizer. Airman Long is February's Golden Bolt award winner. He found the golden bolt as well as a barrel fastener during a morning aircraft inspection.

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LRD civilian wins AETC-level award

STAFF SGT. BENJAMIN ROJEK

325th Fighter Wing Public Affairs

A 325th Logistics and Readiness Division civilian employee won an Air Education and Training Command-level award here March 10.

Robert Flirt, 325th LRD quality assurance professional, winner of the Fuels Civilian Supervisor of the Year award, took the prize after only having worked in this position for one year.

"I was shocked," said Mr. Flirt. "This is my first year in civil service after retiring from the military. I didn't think I would win."

Mr. Flirt retired as a master sergeant in August 2003. He had been working as the fuels superintendent of the Inspector General AETC team. He said this experience has helped him in his new job.

"I was part of a team that performed operational readiness inspections," he said. "I was able to see and learn from a variety of operations."

Lonnie Walls, 325th LRD func-

tional director, said that Mr. Flirt was just what his organization needed.

"We needed someone aggressive and who knew how an operation like this should work," said Mr. Walls. "(Mr. Flirt) can measure up with anyone throughout AETC because of his IG experience."

year. He holds titles such as Fighter Wing Quality Assurance Evaluator of the Year for 2004 and 325th LRD Wingman of the Year for 2004.

